News Release

Steve Westly California State Controller



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STATE CONTROLLER STEVE WESTLY NAMES MEMBERS OF POLICY TEAM

Sacramento, March 25, 2003 – State Controller Steve Westly has formed a team to handle policy on the 57 boards and commissions of which he is a member. The boards and commissions influence tax policy, investments, financing, housing, environmental policy, the California Public Employees' Retirement System (CalPERS), and the California State Teachers' Retirement System (CalSTRS).

"I take very seriously my responsibility to protect the interests of Californians through dozens of boards and commissions and through my role as a fiscal watchdog," said Controller Westly. "By assembling this team, my goal is to ensure that every policy decision is the result of thorough and independent analysis of how that policy will affect Californians."

The new team will consist of several existing positions reorganized under <u>Chief Deputy Controller for Policy</u>, <u>Mark Battey</u>. Battey will oversee policy, economic and budget concerns, and efforts to obtain short-term financing this spring to sustain the State's cash flow. He has extensive experience providing financial, investment and environmental compliance advice and guidance to private industry. Battey is a graduate of Harvard, Stanford and the London School of Economics. Team members under Battey's direction include:

Karon Green, Deputy Controller for CalPERS and CalSTRS. Green joins the Controller's Office from the Assembly Committee on CalPERS, Retirement and Social Security, where she served as Chief Consultant. Green has nearly 20 years of experience with California government as a legislative, budget and program analyst and has held positions with CalSTRS and the Franchise Tax Board. She studied Government Journalism and Communications, graduating with honors from California State University Sacramento.

Marcy Jo Mandel, Deputy Controller for Tax. Mandel represents the Controller at the Board of Equalization, the Commission on Tax Policy in the New Economy and the Franchise Tax Board, which the Controller chairs. Mandel, an attorney, formerly worked at O'Melveny & Myers, where she was a tax litigator involved in federal, state and local tax cases for more than 15 years. A graduate of Vassar College and the University of Chicago Law School and a former law clerk to a federal appeals court judge, she is also an adjunct professor at Loyola Law School and immediate past Chair of the California State Bar Taxation Section.

<u>Cindy Aronberg, Deputy Controller for Boards and Commissions.</u> Aronberg represents the Controller on more than 20 boards and commissions including: the State Lands Commission, the Victim Compensation and Government Claims Board, and the California Tax Credit and Debt Limit Allocation Committees, which finance affordable housing and other projects. Aronberg, a graduate of USC Law School, practiced business and appellate litigation before joining the Controller's Office. She also serves as a judge *pro tem* in the Los Angeles Superior Court, and on the Executive Committee of the Southwest Regional Board of the Anti-Defamation League.